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News Release

VIOLENT GANG MEMBERS SENTENCED TO PRISON

Illegal alien trio planned to rob drug house, shoot occupants

GRAND RAPIDS – Three men, all illegal alien citizens of Mexico with ties to a violent street gang here, were sentenced to prison Tuesday for their roles in planning to raid a drug house here and shoot the occupants.

Jorge Sanchez-Robles, Juan Carlos Quintino-Reyes, and Isreal Mosqueda-Lopez – all in their early 20s – were sentenced to 60, 76, and 76 months in prison respectively in the Federal District Court for the Western District of Michigan.

All three pleaded guilty to the charges Sept. 29, which stemmed from a traffic stop that was executed by Grand Rapids police officers in May. Officers found in the car loaded firearms, that the three subjects were wearing two different sets of clothing at the time, and they were in possession of latex gloves.

"This is the unified approach to law enforcement that the Department of Homeland Security and ICE were created to bring," said ICE Detroit Special Agent-in-Charge Brian M. Moskowitz. "The excellent work in this case shows the effectiveness of federal, state, and local cooperation."

A subsequent investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement special agents determined they were en route to commit an armed robbery at a known drug house in the Grand Rapids area. The investigation revealed that Sanchez-Robles, Quintino-Reyes, and Mosqueda-Lopez intended to invade the house, steal drugs and money, and then shoot any occupants inside.

ICE special agents conducted extensive immigration and criminal history checks through the Law Enforcement Support Center (LESC) databases after all three were arrested and determined they were in the country illegally. A search of their residence found .38-caliber ammunition and a fraudulent Social Security card. The search also uncovered a counterfeit Resident Alien Card that had Sanchez-Robles' picture on it, but had a different name printed on it.

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As criminal aliens, all three will be eligible for immediate removal from the United States upon completion of their sentences. U.S. immigration law provides for the deportation of felons.

Under ICE's Institution Removal Program, a detainer will be placed on the three through the LESC to notify correctional institutions that they are not to be released back into the community upon the completion of their sentences. ICE will take the three into custody to prevent them from jeopardizing public safety again and then deport them directly from detention.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.